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Agenda item 60

EDUCATION AND INFORMATION FOR DISARMAMENT

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Macaire KABORE (Burkina Faso)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The item entitled "Education and information for disarmament" was included in the provisional agenda of the forty-eighth session in accordance with General Assembly resolution 46/27 of 6 December 1991.

2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 24 September 1993, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 2nd meeting, on 14 October 1993, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 57 to 75 and 77 to 82. The deliberations on those items took place at the 3rd to 14th meetings, on 18 to 22, 25, 26 and 28 October (see A/C.1/48/SR.3-14). Consideration of draft resolutions on those items took place at the 18th to 23rd meetings, on 3 to 5, 8 and 9 November (see A/C.1/48/SR.18-23). Action on draft resolutions on those items took place at the 24th to 30th meetings, on 11, 12, 15, 16, 18 and 19 November (see A/C.1/48/SR.24-30).

4. In connection with item 60, the First Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/48/366 and Add.1).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.1/48/L.1

5. At the 18th meeting, on 3 November, the representative of Costa Rica, on behalf of Antigua and Barbuda, Bolivia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, the Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kuwait, the Marshall Islands, Monaco, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the

Philippines, Spain, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, Uruguay and Venezuela, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Education and information for disarmament" (A/C.1/48/L.1), which was later also sponsored by Angola, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Brazil, Ireland, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mongolia, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Suriname, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Tunisia.

6. At its 24th meeting on 11 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/48/L.1 without a vote (see para. 7).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

7. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Education and information for disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/123 of 15 December 1989 and 46/27 of 6 December 1991,

Taking into account the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, 1/ in particular paragraph 106 thereof, in which the Assembly urged Governments and international governmental and non-governmental organizations to take steps to develop programmes of education for disarmament and peace studies at all levels,

Considering that paragraphs 99, 100 and 101 of the Final Document provide for the mechanisms of a programme to mobilize world public opinion to promote disarmament, including the dissemination of information and publicity to complement the educational work,

Also considering that the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme plays an important role in complementing the educational and information efforts for disarmament carried out by Member States within their own educational and cultural development systems,

Recognizing that the important changes that have taken place in the world aimed at promoting freedom, democracy, respect for and enjoyment of human rights, disarmament and social development contribute to the achievement of positive results in the promotion of education and information for disarmament,

Noting with satisfaction the efforts that the educational community is making in the preparation of curricula and activities to promote education for disarmament and peace, as a means of contributing to the implementation of resolutions 44/123 and 46/27,

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1/ General Assembly resolution S-10/2.

1. Expresses appreciation to the Secretary-General for his reports submitted pursuant to resolutions 44/123 and 46/27; 2/

2. Also expresses appreciation for the valuable information contained in the reports submitted by Member States, international governmental and non-governmental organizations and educational institutions for peace and disarmament;

3. Reaffirms that, in order to achieve positive results, it is indispensable to carry out educational and advisory programmes that promote peace and disarmament at all levels and are aimed at changing basic attitudes with respect to aggression, violence, armaments and war, and that support regional and international measures geared to peace, security and cooperation;

4. Reiterates that the efforts of Member States, international governmental and non-governmental organizations and educational institutions for peace and disarmament, in the promotion of activities under the Disarmament Information Programme, will strengthen not only education and information for disarmament, as described in the second and third preambular paragraphs of the present resolution, but also the arms reduction and disarmament processes or agreements that are being carried out at the regional and international levels;

5. Invites Member States and international governmental and non-governmental organizations and educational institutions for peace and disarmament to redouble their efforts to respond to the appeal made in paragraph 106 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly and to submit to the Secretary-General a report on their activities in this regard;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session, under the item entitled "Education and information for disarmament" and from within existing resources, the reports requested in paragraph 5 above.

2/ A/46/506 and A/48/366.